

The Graphic Novel

# SNOW WHITE

RETOLD BY MARTIN POWELL

ILLUSTRATED BY  
ERIK VALDEZ Y ALANIS











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Summary: Once upon a time, an evil queen possessed a powerful mirror. It spoke only the truth,  
which often pleased the queen. But when the mirror reveals that the queen is no longer the fairest  
lady in the land, her heart grows cold. She seeks revenge against the beautiful maiden, vowing to  
destroy the lovely Snow White.

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The Graphic Novel

# SNOW WHITE





# CAST OF CHARACTERS



PRINCE MARCO

THE SEVEN DWARFS





QUEEN MARA

SNOW WHITE



Once upon a time, there lived  
a young prince named Marco.

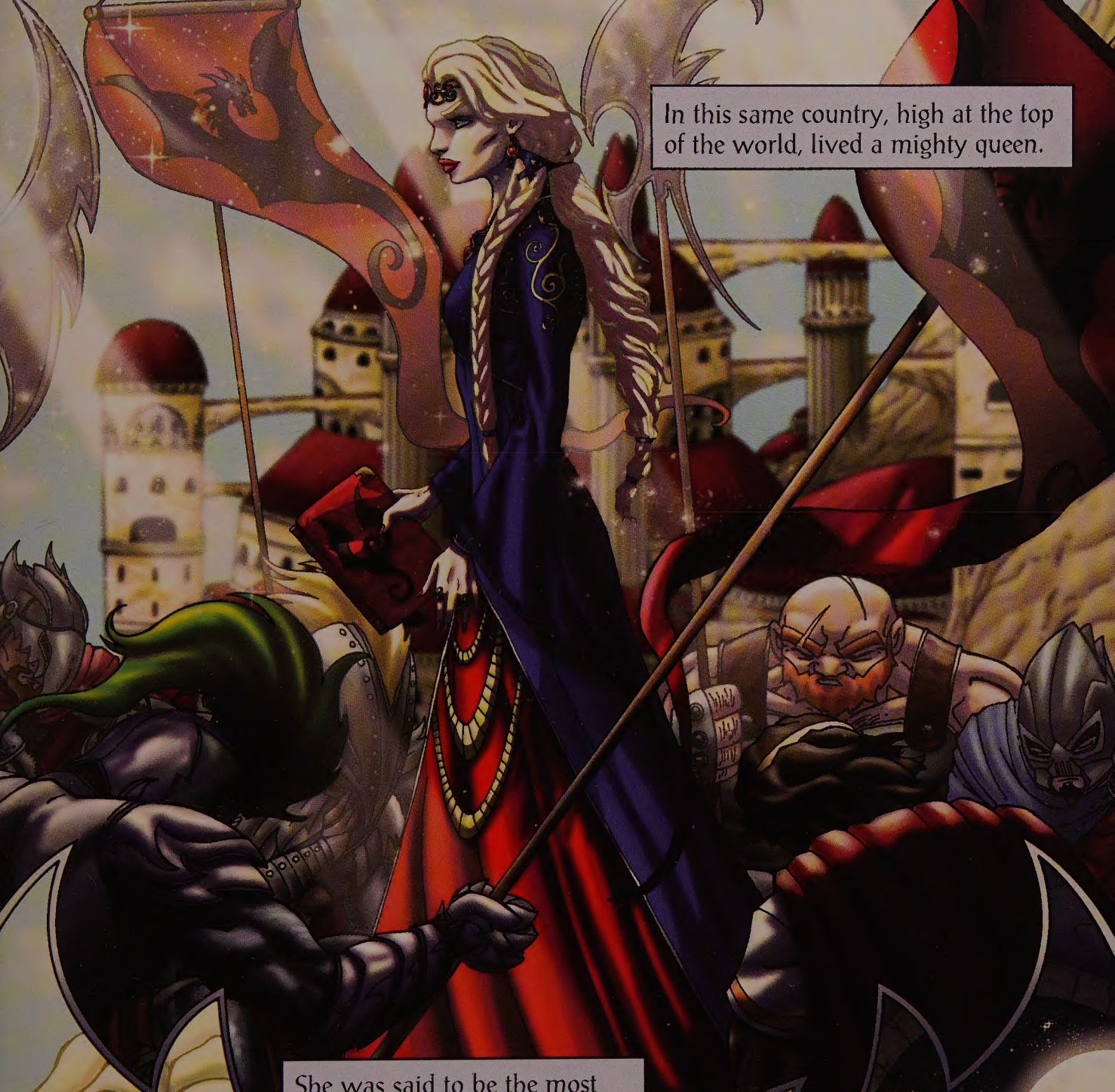


A great adventurer, Marco dared  
everything for the sake of good.


As brave as he was just, Marco  
brought order to the wild land.








In this same country, high at the top of the world, lived a mighty queen.




She was said to be the most beautiful woman in the world.




She was also the most wicked.






It was whispered that Queen Mara had caused the death of her husband, the good king, with a powerful spell.

With no one to stop her, the queen's power grew.




Soon, she wished for another husband, and asked Prince Marco to visit her.



Prince Marco, how good of you to visit me.

Prized most among all her riches was her mirror. The queen would stare endlessly at her own reflection.

However, the looking glass did not fill the loneliness in her icy heart.



The legends speak the truth. My queen is most beautiful, indeed.



Soon, Marco discovered the true nature of the wicked queen . . .


You are selfish and cruel. I would never stay with you!

Choose your words wisely, my handsome prince.

Never is an awfully long time.

What are you doing? What's happening to me?





Much,  
much better. Now  
you're as ageless  
as I am, Prince  
Marco.

Time cannot  
touch you.





And that is how Prince Marco became a prisoner inside the queen's magic mirror . . .

. . . cursed to be the slave of the queen.



With the spirit of Marco trapped inside,  
the mirror let Mara spy on her enemies.

In one night, she had  
defeated them all.



But still, the queen's  
heart grew colder.

Soon, her beautiful  
palace fell into ruin.



In all of the world, there was only  
one thing that she truly cared about.



Day after day, as the years passed,  
she would ask the same question . . .





Mirror,  
mirror, on the wall,  
who is the most  
beautiful woman  
of all?

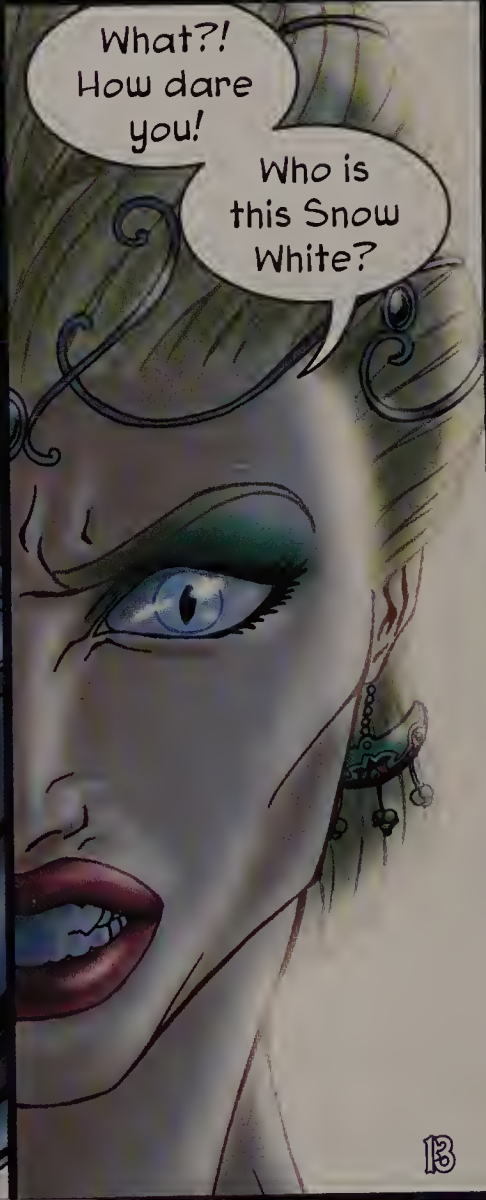
Answer me,  
mirror. Say  
the words!



You are  
beautiful, O  
Queen, it is  
true . . .



. . . But now  
Snow White  
is fairer than  
you.



What?!  
How dare  
you!

Who is  
this Snow  
White?





Show her  
to me!

I will  
obey, evil  
Queen . . .



"Look here, my  
wicked Queen . . ."



"I speak only the truth."



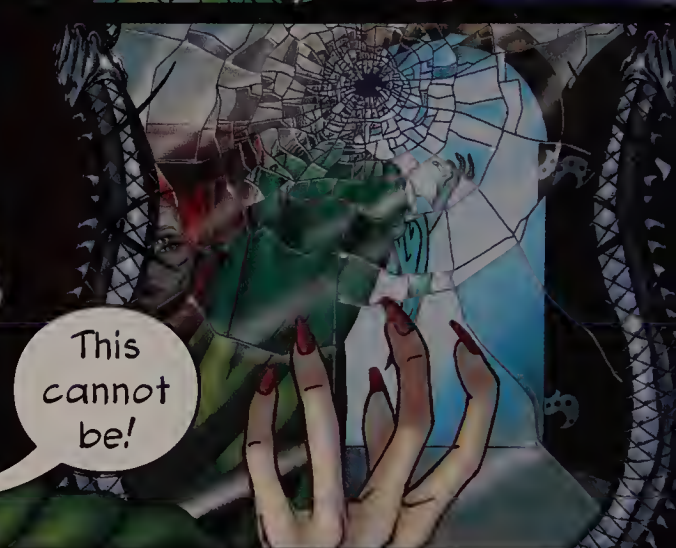


"Her purity and grace like  
the sunshine are seen."





"Snow White's true beauty shines as bright as the sun."





Meanwhile . . .

Snow  
White!

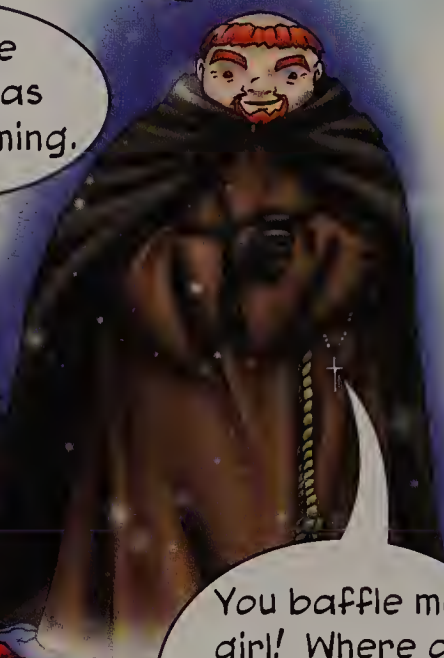


Didn't you  
hear me,  
child?

Forgive  
me. I was  
daydreaming.



You baffle me,  
girl! Where do  
you find such  
fresh fruit in  
the winter?



It just grows  
for me. It  
always grows.

The flowers  
are always in  
bloom, too.






Soon, Queen Mara had an evil plan.








You will  
obey me!

FWOOSH!!!



YIP!  
YIP!



The perfect  
hunter.

You will  
do nicely.



The next morning, in  
Snow White's cottage . . .

What do you  
think, Rufus? A  
pinch more sugar,  
perhaps?



**ROOAAARRR!!**







Later . . .

It's been days, and my pet hasn't returned.

How is that possible?

It doesn't matter.

My mirror is waiting to serve me.

But the queen forgot that she had broken her mirror.

No!!

She would have to find Snow White without its help.

And with her home destroyed by the wolf, Snow White was forced to find new shelter.





I'm so tired.  
If only there was  
someplace safe  
where I could  
rest.



A cave! I've  
never noticed  
that before.




Somebody  
already lives  
here.

I'm so sleepy  
and hungry. I hope  
they don't mind  
some company.



Oh my!





It's you!  
You're here! It's  
just like in our  
dream.

Skin like  
fresh fallen  
snow.

Hair as black  
as the starry  
night sky.

We're  
supposed to  
protect you.

My  
goodness!!



The dwarfs told Snow White that their dream had warned them to protect her from a great evil.



Snow White was grateful to have found a new home.



Months passed. The dwarfs guarded the girl day and night.



The fear had left her. She was happy.



One stormy morning, with the danger forgotten, the dwarfs returned to work in the mines.

Snow White was alone.

What was that noise?

Help!  
Help me!

Don't worry!

I see you!

Here, drink this.  
You'll be all right now.

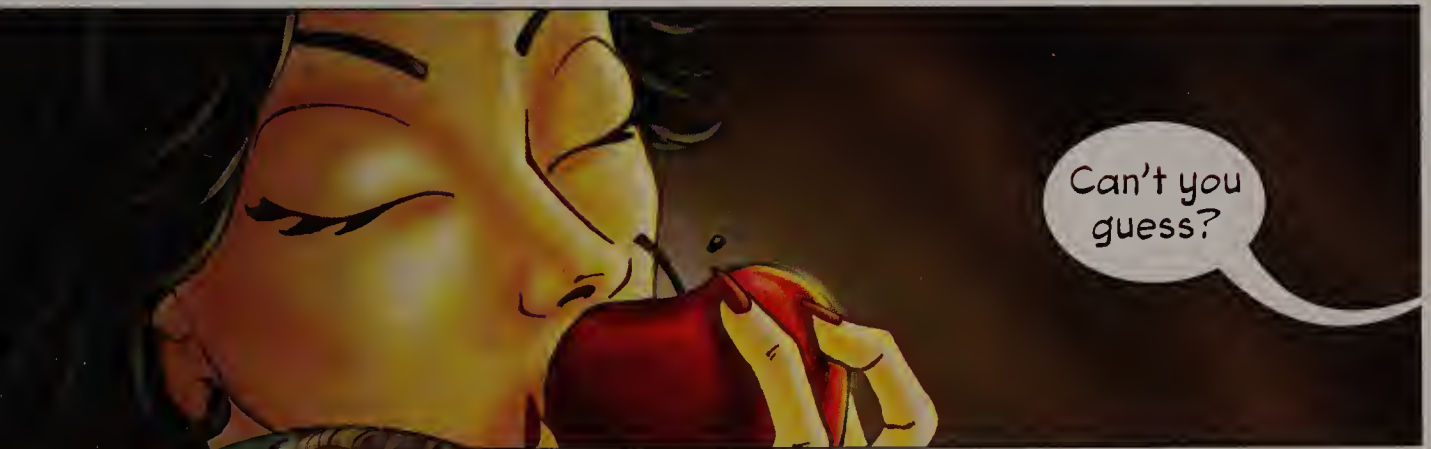
Why were you out in such a bad storm?

I'd heard of a magic tree that grew delicious apples, even in the winter.

Here, child. See for yourself.

Taste one.







The dwarfs returned, heartbroken by their mistake of leaving Snow White alone.

It's poisoned, all right. No doubt about it.

Those are the queen's tracks, leading toward her palace.

There's only one set of footprints in the snow! What happened to Snow White?

She was being carried.

So, what will we do?

No one has ever challenged the evil queen and lived.

Then, we will be the first.



In Queen Mara's palace . . .

So it's  
true — you are  
more beautiful  
than I.

Or, at  
least . . .  
you were.

Your goodness  
somehow resists my  
deadliest poison.

But still,  
you'll sleep for a  
thousand years  
in this glass  
casket!

My beautiful  
dreamer!



Suddenly . . .

What?  
Arrkk —!

Just then, the fearless dwarfs  
sprang up from underground.

The seven little avengers fought  
the queen as hard as they could.

Down they pulled her,  
deep below the earth.



And there they left her, buried far beneath the sleeping Snow White.

No!

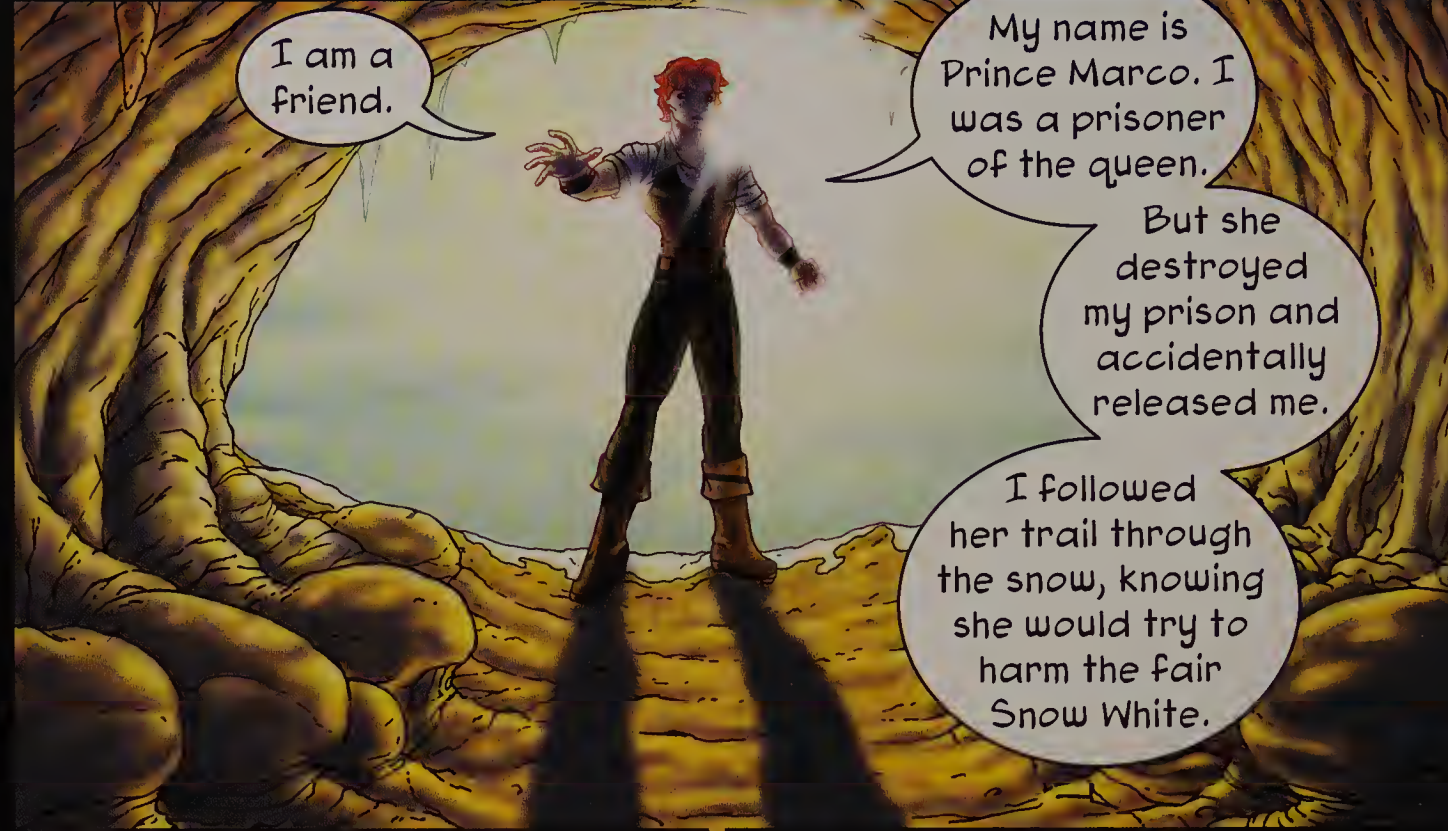
The dwarfs carried Snow White's glass casket back to their cave.

Our dear Snow White!

We have failed her!

Who's there?




A full-page illustration of Prince Marco standing in a cave. He has red hair and is wearing a white shirt, dark vest, and brown boots. He is gesturing with his hands as if speaking. The cave walls are rocky and yellowish-brown.

I am a friend.


My name is Prince Marco. I was a prisoner of the queen.

But she destroyed my prison and accidentally released me.


I followed her trail through the snow, knowing she would try to harm the fair Snow White.

A medium shot of Prince Marco on the left, looking towards Snow White on the right. Snow White is lying down, and a small, colorful animal is visible near her. The background is a dark, rocky cave.

I have watched this maiden for years through a magic mirror.

A close-up of Prince Marco holding Snow White's face gently. He has a determined expression. Snow White is lying down, and a large, glowing blue orb is visible in the background.

Now, may I see her face to face?

A close-up of Prince Marco kissing Snow White. He is leaning over her, and his hands are gently holding her face. The background is dark and blurry.

The prince's kiss freed the piece of poisoned apple from Snow White's throat . . .



... and the evil queen's  
spell was broken forever.



Snow White, and her brave  
prince, lived happily ever after.





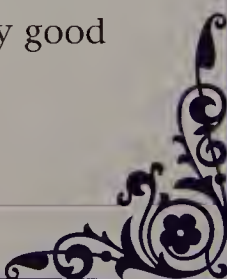
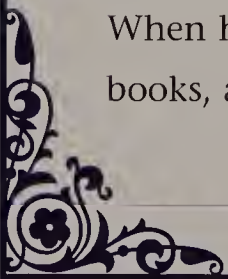


## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Since 1986, Martin Powell has been a freelance writer. He has written hundreds of stories, many of which have been published by Disney, Marvel, Tekno comic, Moonstone Books, and others. In 1989, Powell received an Eisner Award nomination for his graphic novel *Scarlet in Gaslight*. This award is one of the highest comic book honors.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Erik Valdez y Alanis was born and raised in Mexico City, Mexico, and has been drawing since age 2. He uses his passion for art for illustrating, painting, and design work. Valdez has won a number of awards for his art including the L. Ron Hubbard Gold Award for Illustrator of the Future in 2004. He has done illustrations for books, magazines, and CD covers. Today, Valdez has focused on comics including, most recently, *The Sleepy Truth* for Viper Comics. When he's not working, Valdez loves traveling, really good books, and chocolate cake.







# GLOSSARY

**avenger** (uh-VEHNJ-uhr)—someone who gets revenge

**baffle** (BAF-uhl)—to puzzle or confuse someone

**casket** (KASS-kit)—a long container in which a dead person is placed for burial


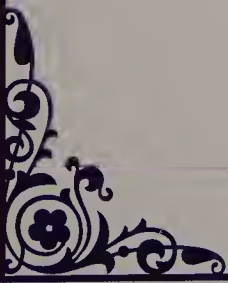
**cruel** (KROO-uhl)—mean or unfair

**grateful** (GRAYT-fuhl)—thankful



**handsome** (HAN-suhm)—attractive in appearance

**maiden** (MAYD-uhn)—a young and unmarried woman

**shelter** (SHEL-tur)—a place to keep covered in bad weather or safe and protected from danger




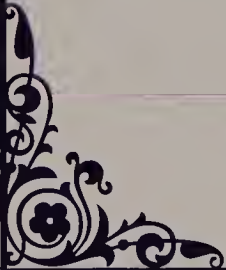




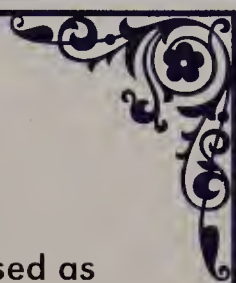

# THE HISTORY OF SNOW WHITE

Stories similar to “Snow White” are found in cultures throughout the world. Some details of the centuries-old tale vary, according to location. A Scottish version, for example, has a talking fish in a well rather than a magic mirror.

Like many fairy tales, the most well-known version comes from the Brothers Grimm. Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were German brothers who published collections of oral fairy tales in the 1800s. Family friends Jeannette and Amalie Hassenpflug told the Grimm brothers the story. Many of the details of the sisters’ story were similar to Italian versions. The dwarfs, however, must have been a German addition. German folk tales often include stocky little men who work underground.




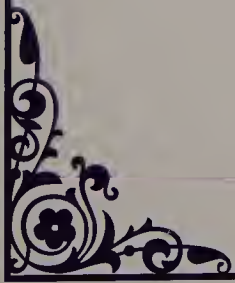




The Grimm version of "Snow White" was used as the basis for the 1937 Walt Disney movie, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. It was the first American full-length animated movie.

For many people, the name Snow White brings to mind Happy, Grumpy, and Dopey. But these dwarf names, along with Doc, Sneezy, Sleepy, and Bashful, were never part of the original versions of the fairy tale. The movie is credited with naming the dwarfs and giving them personalities. The seven names were picked from a list of 50 possibilities, including Awful, Dirty, and Hoppy.

Some historians think that Snow White was based on a real person. Margaret von Waldeck lived in Germany in the 1500s, 200 years before the Grimm brothers were born. She lived in a mining town, was loved by a handsome prince, Phillip II of Spain, and was poisoned at the early age of 21. The villain was never found.

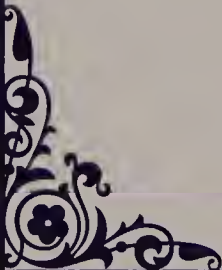






# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. Why was it so important to the queen that she was the most beautiful person in the world? What does this say about her character?
2. When Snow White discovered the “old woman” who was in trouble, she rushed to help her. What does this say about Snow White’s character? Compare and contrast her character with the queen’s character.
3. Fairy tales are often told over and over again. Have you heard the “Snow White” fairy tale before? How is this version of the story different from other versions you’ve heard, seen, or read?







# WRITING PROMPTS

1. What if Snow White had lived with seven giants, rather than seven dwarfs? What sort of home would they have had? Describe this new setting.
  2. The dwarfs felt responsible for watching over Snow White, but they could not watch her during the day when they were at work. Write a list of rules for Snow White to follow when she was home alone.
  3. The story ends by saying that Snow White and her prince lived happily ever after. What about the dwarfs? Write a story about what happens to the little men. Do they join Snow White in her new home? Are they left to watch over another person in danger?
- 
- 







# INTERNET SITES

The book may be over, but the adventure is just beginning.

Do you want to read more about the subjects or ideas in this book? Want to play cool games or watch videos about the authors who write these books? Then go to **FactHound**. At *[www.facthound.com](http://www.facthound.com)*, you'll be able to do all that, and more. The FactHound website can also send you to other safe Internet sites.

**Check it out!**











“Mirror,  
mirror on the wall,  
who is the most  
**BEAUTIFUL**  
woman of **ALL?**”

— the evil Queen

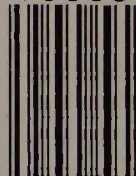
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